

## WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS (cont'd)

an indicator that other, potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming. Example: Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the maximum contaminant level over many years could experience and increase in their blood pressure.

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Example: Some people who drink water containing atrazine well in excess of the maximum contaminant level over many years could experience problems with their cardiovascular system or reproductive difficulties.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. Example: Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the maximum contaminant level over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses. This is included in synthetic organic contaminants and the unregulated contaminants.

## SHOULD I TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## GENERAL SYSTEM INFORMATION

The plant is staffed by six full time operators who hold both treatment and distribution licenses with the State of Kentucky. There is also a full time laboratory technician to perform microbiological

## GENERAL SYSTEM INFORMATION (cont'd)

analysis in the plant as well as the distribution system. The laboratory is certified with the State Division of Water for microbiological analysis. In addition, the city also has three certified standby operators who work in other departments within the city. Additional duties of the operators are: collecting distribution samples and servicing all valves and related equipment at the standpipe and the elevated tanks as well as in-plant maintenance. Paris has approximately 4,896 water meters with an estimated total population served of 16,058 as of December, 2008. With two elevated storage tanks and one standpipe, our distribution system has a total storage of 2.45 million gallons of water. There is approximately 150 miles of pipe in the distribution system. The system employs 5 full time distribution operators, 4 are State certified. Average use is 1.61 million gallons per day and the plant's total treatment capacity is 3.0 million gallons per day. We are operating at 54% of our total treatment capacity. A risk management plan, as required by law, was created in 1999 and updated in 2004 for the water treatment plant in the event that a chlorine leak should occur. The City of Paris Combined Utilities is a member of the American Water Works Association and its operators are members of the Kentucky Water and Wastewater Operators Association. Paris is also a member of the Bluegrass Water Supply Commission, a group consisting of ten regional municipalities that are working to resolve central Kentucky's water supply deficit.

## HOW CAN I BECOME MORE INVOLVED?

The water system is municipally owned which means that it is owned by the City of Paris. It is managed by the plant superintendent who reports to the city manager who in turn reports to the Mayor and city commissioners. If you have billing or service questions, help can be obtained by calling the city office at 987-2110. Technical questions about water treatment can be directed to the plant superintendent by calling 987-2118. If you need emergency service after hours or on weekends or holidays, call central communications at 987-2100. The city commission meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesdays of the month unless otherwise announced. The meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held at the commission chambers of the Paris Municipal Center, 525 High Street. For additional information about the City of Paris and the Combined Utilities, please visit our website at [www.paris.ky.gov](http://www.paris.ky.gov).

**Este informe contiene informacion muy importante. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

## 2008 NOV's

The City of Paris Combined Utilities in 2008 exceeded a drinking water standard. As our customer, you have a right to know what happened. Required water quality test conducted on January 22, and September 23, 2008, indicated the presence of total coliform bacteria in a limited area of the distribution system. Two (2) samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria on both dates. The standard is that no more than five (5%) of the samples may be positive in any month. Also, we are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. People with severely compromised immune systems, infants and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people may want to seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. This was **not** an emergency. An alternative water supply was not necessary. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the distribution system (pipes) or the internal plumbing of a home or business. Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any samples, we also test to see if other bacterial of greater concern, such as E. coli, are present. **We did not find any E. coli. Follow-up coliform and other types of bacteriological testing were clear and indicates that this problem has been resolved.** The following steps are being taken to correct this situation: The system will continue it's hydrant flushing program and this helps to maintain the distribution system disinfectant levels and also keep it free from any rust or other sediments. Also, as regulations state, the minimum level of total chlorine residual was not met in five (5%) of the distribution samples each month for two (2) consecutive months. This occurred in August, September and October of 2008. Although this situation did not require that you take immediate action, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct the situation. There was no need to boil the water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from

## 2008 Water Quality Information

Substance	MCL	MCLG	High-Low Range Detected	Annual Average	Violations	Source
Chloramines (ppm)	MRDL - 4	MRDLG - 4	1.70 - 3.20	2.47	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL - 4	MRDLG - 4	0.80 - 2.90	2.18	NONE	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.97 - 1.31	1.18	NONE	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive that promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Total Coliform (colonies/100mL)	≤ 1 Positive/month	N/A	0 - 2	0.33	Yes	Naturally present in the environment
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	23 - 115	47.2 (Highest RAA)	NONE	By product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	16 - 101	83.75 (Highest RAA)	NONE	By product of drinking water disinfection
PCBs (ppt)	500	0	n/a	0.5	NONE	Runoff from landfills, discharge of waste chemicals
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	n/a	1.10	NONE	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	n/a	1.25	NONE	Corrosion of galvanized pipes, erosion of natural deposits, discharge from metal refineries, runoff from waste batteries and paints
Thallium (ppb)	2	0.5	n/a	1	NONE	Leaching from ore processing sites, discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories
TOC* (Total Organic Carbon)	TT	N/A	0.50 - 3.68	1.24 (Lowest RAA)	NONE	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	TT (95% of monthly readings < 0.3)	N/A	0.076 - 0.946	96.7 (Lowest monthly % < 0.3)	NONE	Soil runoff

\* TOCs are calculated figuring a ratio of actual percentage removed divided by the required percentage removed. To be in compliance, the ratio must be greater than or equal to 1.0

Substance	MCL	MCLG	90th Percentile	Number of samples above Action Level	High - Low Range Detected	Violations	Source
Lead (ppb)	15AL	0	5	0	14 - 1	NONE	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3AL	1.3	0.091	0	<0.001 - 0.540	NONE	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

## ABBREVIATIONS

PPM - Parts Per Billion  
 PPM - Parts Per Million  
 CaCO<sub>3</sub> - Calcium Carbonate  
 PC/L - Picocuries Per Liter  
 S.U. - Standard Units  
 NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units  
 TT - Treatment Technique  
 = - equal to  
 < - Less Than  
 > - Greater Than  
 TON - Threshold Odor Number  
 MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level  
 RAA - Running Annual Average  
 MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal  
 AL - Action Level  
 NOV - Notice of Violation  
 SWTR - Surface Water Treatment Rule

## DEFINITIONS

**MCLG** - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.  
**MCL** - Maximum Contaminant Level, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.  
**MRDL** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.  
**MRDLG** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.  
**AL** - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.  
**TT** - Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.  
**PC/L** - Picocuries per Liter, a measure of radiation.  
**NOV** - Violations issued by the Division of Water.  
**RAA** - Running Annual Average is figured quarterly using the average of the most recent quarter added with the three (3) previous quarters and divided by four (4).

Most samples are the most recent results through 12/31/2008 and in accordance with administrative regulation 401 KAR Chapter 8. Testing compliance periods are in three(3) years periods and are part of a nine(9) year cycle which runs 1/1/2002 to 12/31/2010.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND PROTECTION PLAN

### (SWAPP)

Following is a summary of the Paris system's susceptibility to contamination, which is part of the completed Source Water Assessment Protection Plan (SWAPP). The completed plan is available for inspection. Please call Kevin Crump at the Paris Water Plant at 987-2118 to make arrangements. An analysis of the susceptibility of the Paris Water Supply to contamination indicates that this susceptibility is generally moderate. However there are a few areas of high concern. Several highway bridges in the immediate vicinity of the intake may pose a potential threat to the water supply. An accidental release of contaminants from any of these sites could reach the intake. The same is true for railroads that occur between KY 627 and KY 1678 near Kennedy Creek. In addition, areas of row crops, municipal sewer lines, A KPDLS permitted discharger and a waste generator and/or transporter are causes for concern. Finally, there are numerous permitted operations and activities and other potential contaminant sources of moderate concern within the greater watershed that cumulatively increase the potential for the release of contaminants with in the area. These potential contaminant sources include everything from septic systems, to major roads, to hazardous chemical users.

## WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The City of Paris uses Stoner Creek, a surface water, as its sole source of drinking water. Stoner Creek originates in Clark County as does Strodes Creek which is a major tributary of Stoner Creek. Both are part of the Licking River drainage basin. Our raw water supply is relatively good compared to some supplies as there is not a lot of industrial pollution. However, we are plagued by runoff from farm land. The fertilizers from the runoff can cause heavy algae bloom which in turn creates treatment problems. There are four dams on our raw water source with a total gross storage of 378 million gallons. Plant personnel maintain the dams that the City of Paris controls on Stoner Creek. There have not been any major problems with drought since two of our dams were raised in the 1950's.

## IS THERE LEAD IN OUR WATER?

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Paris Combined Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. The City of Paris is in compliance with all regulations related to lead and copper in it's drinking water.

## IS OUR DRINKING WATER SAFE?

Yes. Our drinking water is monitored daily at the plant and in the distribution system to ensure proper treatment. We also send water samples to our contracted certified lab to check for over 100 possible contaminants. Those detected are listed with their results in this brochure. Our system did receive some NOV's in 2008. See NOV section for further details.

## WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THIS REPORT?

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments require that, beginning in October 1999, all community water systems provide customers with an annual report on the quality of their drinking water.

## HOW IS OUR WATER TREATED?

Water from Stoner Creek is pumped into the rapid mix by the raw water (low service) pumps. It is pumped in at a rate of 2,100 gallons per minute. This flow rate is important in that all detention times throughout the treatment process are based on this flow rate. Here poly aluminum chloride or alum, lime, and sodium permanganate are added and thoroughly mixed with the creek water. Dosages will vary depending on the water conditions. Detention time in this basin is one (1) minute.

It then flows into the coagulation basin where it is slowly mixed by two (2) mechanical paddles. As the water flows through, the chemicals reacting with the particulate matter starts to form what is known as floc particles. These particles continue to grow in size and mass as they continue through this basin. Carbon is added when needed in this basin for taste and odor control. Also, the sodium permanganate is reacting during this time to oxidize any metals (example: iron, manganese) that may be dissolved in the water as well as oxidizing other organic materials present. The detention time for this basin is forty (40) minutes. Chlorine is added for disinfection at the effluent (exit) of this basin.

The water then flows into the settling basins where the floc particles settle to the bottom of these basins. The settled water flows to the filters. The detention time of the settling basins is approximately four (4) hours.

There are four (4) filters that are called dual media rapid sand filters. They utilize both sand and anthracite as the filtering medium. The filters are equipped with rate of flow gauges and controllers that maintain a constant and balanced flow through each filter. These filters retain any particles that may not have been removed in the settling basins. They filter at a rate of two (2) gallons per square foot per minute. Chemicals added in the filter effluent are fluoride, ammonia and chlorine. Caustic soda is added to help control the pH (pH indicates whether the water is an acid or a base).

When the water leaves the filters, it enters the clearwells where it is stored on site. The treatment process is complete other than the contact time with the post chlorine or chloramines which is added after the filters. By the time the finished water reaches the high service pumps, the chlorine contact time is complete and the water is then pumped into the distribution system where it reaches the City of Paris customers. Water is stored in a standpipe and the two (2) elevated tanks that are part of the distribution system. Samples are taken daily and tested in our lab to help ensure the quality of the end product.

## CHEMICALS USED

Alum - The chemical name is aluminum sulfate. This is used to help form floc which helps settle the particulate matter out of the water.

Lime - The chemical name is calcium hydroxide. It helps provide additional alkalinity for the formation of floc and helps to adjust the pH of the water.

Chlorine - This is used to disinfect the water by inactivating harmful bacteria.

Sodium Permanganate - This is used to oxidize metals such as iron and/or manganese and other organics. It also helps control taste and odor problems.

Powdered Carbon - Also called PAC, (powdered activated carbon) This is added to help reduce taste and odor problems through adsorption.

Caustic Soda - The chemical name is sodium hydroxide. This is used occasionally for pH control.

Fluoride - The chemical name is hydrofluosilicic acid. Its sole purpose is to prevent tooth decay.

Ammonia - Also called anhydrous ammonia. This combines with chlorine to form chloramines.

Poly Aluminum Chloride - The chemical name is aluminum chloride hydroxide sulfate. This is used to help form floc which helps settle the particulate matter out of the water.

## WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN THE WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health risk can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, (800-426-4791) Bottled water is governed by the Food and Drug Administration and must provide the same level of protection against contaminants as public drinking water regulations do.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

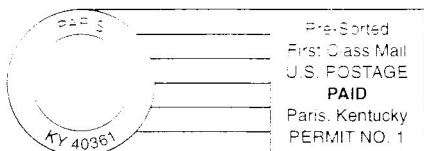
Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture livestock operations and wildlife. example: Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as

## 2008 NOV's cont'd

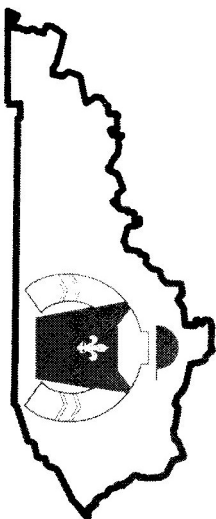
EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791. This situation did not require that you take immediate action. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. This violation occurred most likely due to faulty sampling techniques. We have since updated our sampling techniques and received additional equipment for testing disinfectants in the distribution system. Disinfectant levels since the violations are now within limits. Please share information about these notices with all the people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. For more information, please contact Kevin Crump at (859) 987-2118 during normal business hours. This notice is being sent to you by the City of Paris Combined Utilities. State water system ID# KY0090343. Distributed 6/09.

### CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

Cryptosporidium is an intestinal parasite that is sometimes found in surface water sources such as Stoner Creek. It can cause intestinal flu-like symptoms that could possibly be a severe health risk to immunocompromised individuals. Healthy individuals should recover from this infection with no problems. Paris began monthly testing of Stoner Creek for cryptosporidium in June of 2005 with no detections occurring in 2005, 2006 or 2007. Testing was not required for 2008.



The City of Paris  
Combined Utilities  
525 High Street  
Paris KY 40361



"Over 75 Years of Dependable Service"

# COMBINED UTILITIES WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2008

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